

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1X

Industrial Mobilization

1. On 23 August 1952 the Central Committee of the North Korean People's Assembly decided to conscript the following numbers of people for industrial work during the months of September through December 1952:

North P'yongan Province	13,000
South P'yongan Province	10,000
Ewanghae Province	12,000
Chagang Province	4,000
North Hamgyong Province	12,000
South Hamgyong Province	15,000
Kangwon Province	5,000

Total 71,000

2. Those mobilized will be divided among North Korean industries as follows:

Mines	21,000
Chemicals	5,500
Heavy industries	7,500
Electricity	18,000
Forestry	3,000
Clothing	1,500
Printing	1,500
Irrigation	13,000

Total 71,000

3. The purposes of the mobilization were to offset the shortage of skilled manpower in North Korea resulting from the transfer of workers to the Soviet

SECRET

25X1A

181

25X1A

SECRET

- 2 -

Union, to train a pool of skilled industrial technicians, and to prepare for a drive for increased production which was to begin in late December 1952. Those to be conscripted for service were to be members of the small merchant class under the age of 50. Discharged North Korean officers and soldiers were to be conscripted to supervise the workers. No worker was to be assigned to work in the province from which he was conscripted.

25X1A

Transfer of Workers to the Soviet Union

4. On 23 August 1952 the Central Committee of the North Korean People's Assembly decided to send 50,000 skilled North Korean workers to the Soviet Union in response to a request from the Central Committee of the Soviet Workers' Alliance. The workers were to be assigned to coal mines in the Donets Basin.¹

25X1X

1. Comment. In early April 1952 the North Korean government sent 20,000 laborers to the Soviet Union to work on the Volga Canal. After the canal was completed, none of the workers was returned.

25X1A

Comment. It is dubious that a large number of North Korean laborers would be transported such a long distance to work in European coal mines, especially with the scarce transport facilities in the USSR.

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